

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8304

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18562

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, TV

SUBJ: TURKISH COMMENTS ON KOSYGIN VISIT

REF: MOSCOW 18497

1. TURKISH EMBASSY OFFICER (PORTECT) OFFERED SOME FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF KOSYGIN'S TRIP TO TURKEY, BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION FROM ANKARA CONCERNING THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE ALSO PROVIDED A PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THE ABSENCE OF A HIGH-RANKING SEND-OFF FROM MOSCOW FOR KOSYGIN.

2. IN THE TURK'S OPINION, THE "POLITICAL DOCUMENT" MENTIONED IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE WOULD PROBABLY PROVIDE FOR REGULAR BILATERAL POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS, AND WOULD PERHAPS REITERATE THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE CSCE FINAL ACT. HE FELT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS UNWILLING TO GO BEYOND A
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GENERAL STATEMENT ALONG THESE LINES, AND HE CLAIMED THAT A

TREATY OF ANY KIND WAS "OUT OF THE QUESTION." ASKED WHY SUCH A GENERAL DOCUMENT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN SIGNED WHILE KOSYGIN WAS IN TURKEY, HE REPLIED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT "PROBABLY WANTED TO BUY SOME TIME."

3. THE TURK ADDED THAT THE RETURNING SOVIET DELEGATION TOLD HIM THEY WERE "GENERALLY SATISFIED" WITH THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT, EVEN THOUGH CERTAIN DIFFERENCES REMAINED OUTSTANDING. IN THIS REGARD, HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE COMMUNIQUE'S VAGUE LANGUAGE ON CYPRUS, AND HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE TWO SIDES STILL APPEARED FAR APART ON THIS ISSUE.

4. THE TURK ALSO OFFERED A PLAUSIBLE SOLUTION FOR THE RIDDLE CONCERNING THE ABSENCE OF OTHER HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET LEADERS AT THE MOSCOW DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR THE SOVIET DELEGATION (REFTEL). THE TURKS WERE TOLD THAT KOSYGIN JOINED THE OFFICIAL SOVIET DELEGATION IN SUKHUMI, AND, FOLLOWING THE VISIT, LEFT THE DELEGATION IN KIEV AND RETURNED TO SUKHUMI WHERE HE "WAS RESTING." WE NOTE THAT KOSYGIN MADE NO PUBLIC APPEARANCES IN MOSCOW DURING THE PERIOD DEC 12-26, AND HE THUS MAY WELL HAVE BEEN OFF ON A SHORT MID-WINTER VACATION. HIS DEPARTURE FROM MOSCOW TO SUKHUMI ON SUCH A VACATION OF COURSE WOULD HAVE RECEIVED NO PRESS PLAY.
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